

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 00985 121239Z

42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 DRC-01 SS-20 NSC-07 FEA-02 SCI-06

INT-08 TRSE-00 XMB-07 /115 W
----- 068657

R 120845Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1333

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 0985

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID ENRG MO US

SUBJ: SHALE OIL DISCUSSIONS DURING BENHIMA VISIT

REF: STATE 046797

1. MOROCCAN SHALE OIL DEPOSITS OCCUR NEAR TIMAHDITE, A TOWN IN MIDDLE ATLAS ON MAIN ROAD FROM MEKNES TO MIDELET. THEY TOTAL ESTIMATED 5 BILLION TONS OF WHICH 200 MILLION REPORTEDLY COULD BE READILY EXTRACTED USING OPEN PIT TECHNIQUES. LIMITED TESTING DONE THUS FAR RATES THEM AT 16.3 TO 18.3 PERCENT ORGANIC MATTER WITH TEST EXTRACTION OF 8.9 PERCENT OIL.

2. ACCORDING KNOWLEDGEABLE BRPM SOURCES, RECENT GOM STUDY PROJECTS THAT 1 BILLION DIRHAM INVESTMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED TO REACH PRODUCTION OF 100,000 BARRELS OF SHALE OIL PER DAY AT PRODUCTION COST OF 6-7 DOLLARS A BARREL. THIS WOULD BE BY FAR THE LARGEST SINGLE INVESTMENT PROJECT EVER UNDERTAKEN IN MOROCCO.
NEUMANN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PRIVATE INVESTMENTS, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, OIL SHALE
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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